



Washington, D.C. 20520

OCT 8 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: All Participants in the USC/FAR Meeting of September 24, 1974, Convened to Consider Support for China Studies (see attached list of Addressees)

SUBJECT : Proposed Department of State Project on "Studies of Chinese Problems"--Invitation for Other Agency Funding and Involvement.

Toward the end of the September 24 meeting, the subject project was briefly described and copies of the attached "Draft Work Statement" made available to the few participants able to stay to the end. The project is meant to serve the Department's needs while simultaneously making available some funds for research associates to work in major academic Centers--a stated need of China scholars.

While subjecting this project to further scrutiny and development, the Department of State would welcome the opportunity to discuss with other interested agencies ways in which they might participate. At this time, we would like especially to hear from those that might wish to enter into collaborative funding arrangements.

Assuming it goes ahead, the Department of State will probably be able to support in FY-1975 only one contract responsive to this work statement. On the basis of past experience, we would anticipate several excellent proposals, all of which would be worthy of support were funds available. This suggests the possibility that another agency might wish to fund one or more of the worthy proposals--either directly after assessing all proposals along with the Department (coordinate funding), or indirectly by transferring funds to the Department and participating in the process of assessing proposals followed by joint monitoring and utilization (joint funding). The Department is open to suggestions concerning other modes of collaborative funding.

Whatever the modality of funding, the other participating agencies may at this point wish to suggest changes in the description of the project in order to enhance the likelihood that some proposals will suggest studies on problems of particular interest to those agencies.) For example, the Department of Commerce might prefer to see in the first full paragraph on page 3 some reference to commercial relations whereas the Department of Defense might like to see some explicit reference to the military or security dimensions of China's relations with its neighbors.

To keep things rolling, I would appreciate hearing by Friday, October 18 from each addressee whether:

- 1) you or others in your agency would like to explore further with State the possibilities of collaborative funding;
- ✓ 2) you need more time to test the feasibility of entering such explorations, and if so, how much time;
- 3) you believe such collaborative funding for such a project this year is simply not feasible for your agency--(why?), and in that case;
- 4) whether you nevertheless would like to be kept informed as this project goes through further development, perhaps with a view to participating in some of the symposia involved should there eventually be one or more contracts along these lines.

10/22/74  
- phoned this  
option to Griffin  
(Party out of town)

Attachments:  
As stated.



E. Raymond Platig, Director  
Office of External Research  
INR/XR, 632-1342  
(Executive Secretary, USC/FAR)

DRAFT WORK STATEMENT

TITLE: Studies of Chinese Problems

PURPOSE:

To provide the Department of State and other government agencies with studies of selected problems faced by the People's Republic of China. These problems should be of importance to the Chinese leadership and may be either domestic or international in nature. The studies should assist Department officers in understanding and assessing the importance of these problems as they bear upon U.S. relations with China over the next several years.

BACKGROUND:

The leadership of the People's Republic of China, like the leadership in other nations, faces over the next several years a number of internal economic and social problems as well as a number of problems in that nation's international relations. How well the Chinese cope with these problems will have much to say about that nation's position and impact upon world affairs and / have important implications for U.S. foreign policy.

One can imagine a multitude of studies that would throw light on these problems. Many such studies are regularly undertaken in the Department of State and elsewhere in government; additional studies are also under way in the academic community.

As a check upon and challenge to its own thinking about these matters, the government requires more direct intellectual

interaction than now pertains between itself and academic centers in which creative research is going forward.

Simultaneously, major academic centers for research on China are experiencing difficulties in supporting a broad range of China studies. Moreover, a number of well trained younger scholars find themselves teaching in institutions where they have little opportunity to conduct research. If these younger scholars could be brought into major academic centers as research associates for approximately one year, at least some of the problems now faced by American scholarship on China could be ameliorated.

Thus this project seeks to meet the government's needs for fresh analyses of Chinese problems while at the same time meeting the academic community's need for support of research in major academic centers by well trained but currently scattered scholars.

DESCRIPTION:

This project seeks to assist one or more qualified academic centers currently performing research on contemporary China to undertake studies which the centers themselves propose because they believe the studies will contribute to improved understanding of the nature and dynamics of Chinese life--the type of understanding which should be part of the intellectual equipment of those charged with the formulation and conduct of U.S. foreign policy as it bears upon China. In proposing studies, the centers will be expected to identify those younger scholars, not now associated with the center, who will take up research

associate appointments at the center in order to work on each study proposed.

The Department has few preconceived notions as to which specific studies might be best for this purpose. It does feel that each study should focus upon one or more contemporary Chinese problems likely to be of continuing importance for China and for its position in world affairs. These problems may be rooted either in Chinese domestic social and economic life, or in China's relations with its neighbors, such as Japan, Korea and the countries of South and Southeast Asia; studies analyzing the Chinese role in international organizations might also be of interest. Believing that Sino-Soviet relations are already the subject of much study, the Department is not inclined to support research on that topic.

For each problem to be studied, it is suggested that there be both an independent objective analysis of the problem plus an analysis of the Chinese leadership's perception(s) of it, with the implications of differences, if any, spelled out.

The Department is not concerned whether the work performed under this project at a particular center results in one or a series of discrete studies. Likewise, studies to be undertaken can either be continuations of those already in process, or entirely new ones, or both. In assessing proposed studies, however, the Department will be concerned with the question whether the data/information base is likely to be adequate to support informative analysis.

In addition to arranging and supervising the proposed studies, the center's principal supervising investigator(s) for this project should be prepared to spend up to 25 working days under the project for a combination of (1) face-to-face consultations in the Department, and (2) preparation of brief, informal papers on questions posed by the Department and deemed appropriate for such treatment by the principal investigator(s).

The research associates, and perhaps others at the center, will be expected to participate in a number of colloquia with selected groups of Department officers. The purpose of the colloquia is to inform knowledgeable officers of the progress of the studies and to exchange ideas and interpretations. The Department estimates that about three such colloquia during the course of the project would be appropriate, but proposers may suggest a number they think more appropriate in light of the studies they propose.

The content and timing of the consultations, informal papers and colloquia referred to above shall be arrived at through agreement between the contractor and the Department's Office of External Research during the course of the project.

SPECIAL FEATURES:

1. Along with the usual criteria applied to the evaluation of proposals, the Department will give special weight to proposals that promise to enrich, deepen or revise the concepts used in analyzing Chinese problems important to U.S. policy.

2. Depending upon a number of factors, including the quality of proposals received, the Department may decide to support more than one project under these terms of reference. Other government agencies may wish to make funds available to the Department, and participate in the evaluation of proposals, to the end that a number of proposals from different centers can be supported.

3. It is not expected that access to classified material will be necessary for completion of this project. If during the course of the project the contractor considers that access to classified material would significantly improve the quality of one or more of the studies in progress, the Department's Office of External Research will be prepared to discuss possible amendments to the contract, including the provisions covering publication.

LEVEL OF EFFORT:

Senior scholars in the field of China studies have estimated that a young, post-Ph.D., research associate can be supported for 9-12 months on a \$15,000 stipend. Centers are invited to propose a level of effort appropriate for either one or two research associates, plus a reasonable level of effort for the principal supervising investigator(s) in meeting the terms of this project. Since this project is designed to be of assistance to the academic community while simultaneously meeting the needs of the State

Department, the Department--other things being equal--will be inclined to look more favorably upon proposals from centers willing to absorb associated over-head costs or otherwise collaborate with the Department in support of the proposed studies.

DELIVERY DATES:

Proposals should specify when the contractor will deliver the final draft report(s) to the Department; if more than one study is proposed, final draft reports may be staggered. Final reports should be delivered (in 200 copies each) two months after each final draft report. All work under this project should be completed and all final reports delivered by December 15, 1976.

PUBLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

1. The reports resulting from this project will be UNCLASSIFIED. The Department of State's policy is to encourage the publication of UNCLASSIFIED studies. Subject to the satisfactory completion of the Department's pre-publication review (see next paragraph), the contractor will be free to publish the report, provided the Department decides not to undertake direct publication. If the Department undertakes direct publication, the contractor may thereafter publish in usual academic media articles and books based in whole or in part upon the research performed under this project.
2. The Department reserves the right to review and comment on the substance of each final report prior to its publication. To meet this requirement, the contractor will deliver, according to the agreed schedule, ten copies of a completely edited draft of each final report to the cognizant Senior Program Officer in the Department's Office of External Research. The Senior Program Officer will arrange for appropriate Department officers to review and comment on the contractor's draft. These comments will be submitted to the contractor within 30 days of receipt of the final draft report in question. Within 30 days of receipt of the Department's comments, the contractor will deliver to the Department's Office of External Research 200 copies of the final report.
3. The contractor will consult with the Senior Program Officer to ensure that each final report, and any subsequent published version, contains a mutually agreed acknowledgment of Departmental support as well as a mutually agreed disclaimer of official endorsement of opinions, findings and/or conclusions.
4. If the Department undertakes direct publication, it will provide the contractor with ten copies of same without charge. If, whether in lieu of or in addition to direct publication, the contractor arranges for publication(s) based in whole or in significant part upon research performed under this project, he will provide the Department with ten copies of same without charge.



PARTICIPANTS -- Special USC/FAR Consultative Group on China Studies  
September 24, 1974

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NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

Mr. Robert J. Kingston, Deputy Chairman  
(Mr. Kingston was unable to attend, but  
later sent some comments by memorandum.)